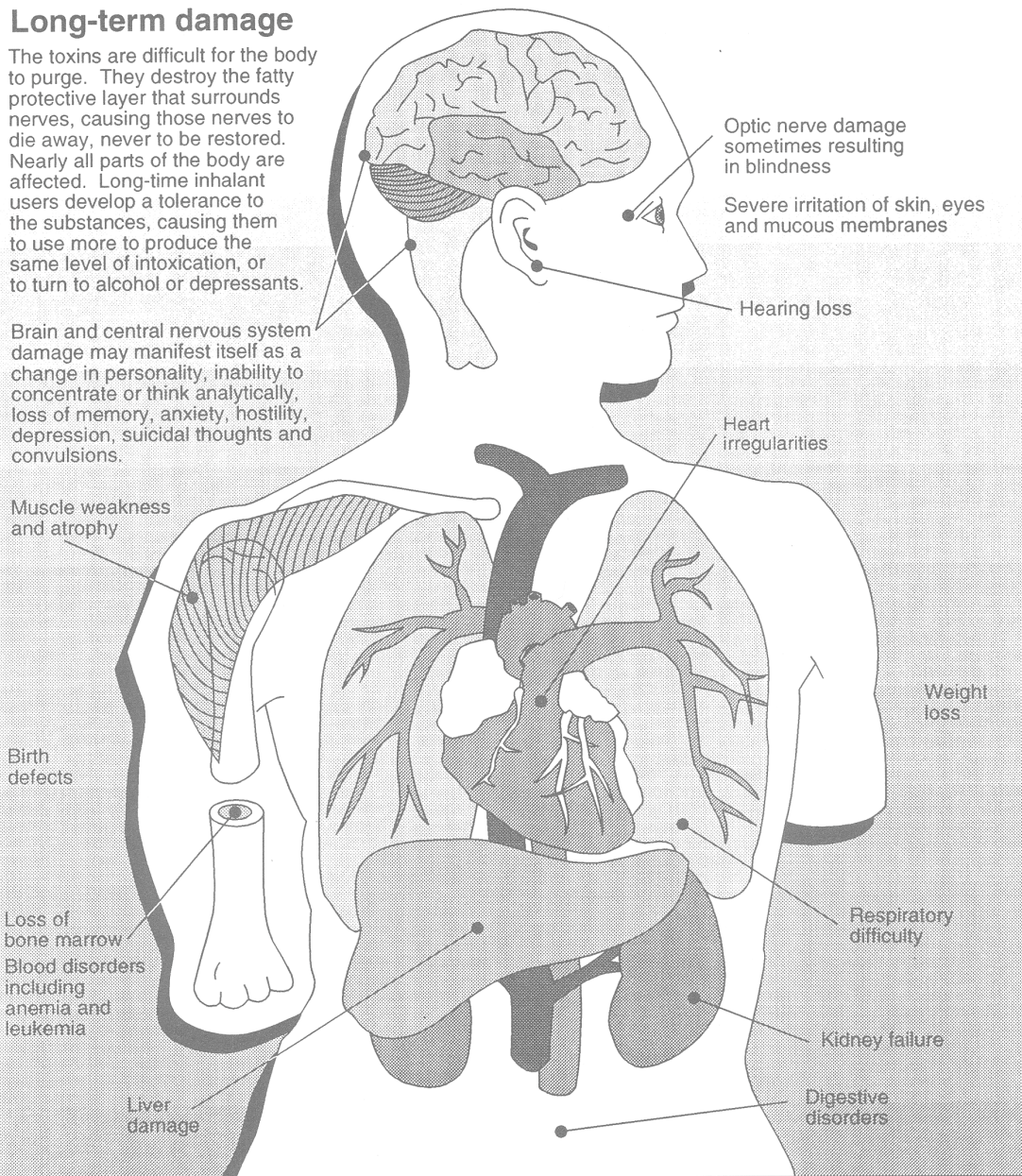


Inhalant Abuse and Your Body

Long-term damage

The toxins are difficult for the body to purge. They destroy the fatty protective layer that surrounds nerves, causing those nerves to die away, never to be restored. Nearly all parts of the body are affected. Long-time inhalant users develop a tolerance to the substances, causing them to use more to produce the same level of intoxication, or to turn to alcohol or depressants.

Brain and central nervous system damage may manifest itself as a change in personality, inability to concentrate or think analytically, loss of memory, anxiety, hostility, depression, suicidal thoughts and convulsions.



Research/ Jayne Palmer

Star Tribune graphic/ Ray Grumney

This handout is made available through the

MAINE INHALANT ABUSE PREVENTION TASK FORCE

A Project of the New England Institute of Addiction Studies / Funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

For more information about inhalants please contact

Maine Office of Substance Abuse Information and Resource Center

Phone: 1-800-499-0027 TTY – 1-800-215-7604

Email: osa.ircosa@maine.gov Web Address: <http://maineosa.org/irc>